

Message Text

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42

ORIGIN EA-14

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DRAFTED BY EA/J:RLDANKERT:FIM

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COMMERCE - MR. MIYAKAWA (PHONE)

EB - MR. SWART (PHONE)

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R 111335Z FEB 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS STATE 027164

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: BDIS, JA

SUBJECT: DEERE & CO. - ELECTRODE SHORTAGE

1. THE DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED A REQUEST FROM DEERE & CO. TO DISCUSS WITH APPROPRIATE JAPANESE BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENTAL CIRCLES THE PROSPECTS OF MAKING ADEQUATE SUPPLIES OF CARBON ELECTRODES AVAILABLE TO THE COMPANY. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO INVESTIGATE PROBLEM AND REPORT TO DEPARTMENT.

2. DEERE STATES IT WILL BE UNABLE TO PREVENT SERIOUS PRODUCTION PROBLEMS FROM DEVELOPING UNLESS ADEQUATE SUPPLIES OF THE CARBON ELECTRODES USED IN ELECTRIC FOUNDRIES CAN BE FOUND. NIPPON CARBON OF AMERICA, INC., HAS SUPPLIED SUBSTANTIAL QUANTITIES OF THESE PREVIOUSLY BUT NOW INDICATES SHIPMENTS IN 1974 ARE EXTREMELY UNCERTAIN BECAUSE OF ENERGY SHORTAGES AND CONSEQUENT DISLOCATION OF PRODUCTION IN JAPAN. BECAUSE OF A SHORTAGE IN DOMESTIC CAPACITY, DEERE IS UNABLE TO MAKE UP THIS SHORTFALL DOMESTICALLY. DEERE PURCHASED 780 - - 14" X 72-"ELECTRODES FROM NIPPON CARBON IN 1973 AND WILL REQUIRE AT LEAST THAT NUMBER BEGINNING IN FEBRUARY 1974.

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